WAKE COUNTY  NORTH CAROLINA 19 4 19 4 19 2 18 19 2 18 19 2 18 19 19 19 19 19 19 19 19 19 19 19 19 19	IN THE GENERAL COURTS OF JUSTICE SUPERIOR COURT DIVISION 09 CVS
NORTH CAROLINA USE COS USE COS	
THE NORTH CAROLINA STATE BAR, PETITIONER,	) _)_ ) CONSENT ORDER OF
v.	) PRELIMINARY INJUNCTION
RANDOLPH C. ROMEO, ATTORNEY, RESPONDENT.	) )

THIS MATTER came on to be heard and was heard by the undersigned Judge of Superior Court of Wake County on motion of the North Carolina State Bar. Petitioner, the North Carolina State Bar, was represented by Carmen K. Hoyme. Respondent, Randolph C. Romeo, was represented by Alan M. Schneider. Based upon the consent of the parties, the Court makes the following:

## FINDINGS OF FACT

- 1. Respondent, Randolph C. Romeo ("Romeo"), was licensed to practice law in North Carolina in 1976.
- 2. As of the date of this petition, Romeo's last known address of record on file with the State Bar is 136 S. King Street, Suite B, Hendersonville, N.C. 28792.
- 3. The State Bar has received information indicating that Romeo has mishandled entrusted funds.
  - 4. Romeo desires to cooperate with the State Bar.
- 5. A need for prompt action exists to ensure that further entrusted funds are not mishandled.

BASED UPON THE FOREGOING FINDINGS OF FACT, the Court makes the following:

## CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

- 1. Prompt action, pursuant to N.C. Gen. Stat. 84-28(f), is necessary to preserve the status quo while the State Bar conducts an analysis of Romeo's trust and operating accounts and to ensure that no additional entrusted funds are mishandled.
- 2. Romeo should be enjoined from accepting any further funds from or on behalf of clients or other individuals in a fiduciary capacity, from writing checks against any account in which client or fiduciary funds have been deposited, and from directing any employee or agent to draw a check on any account in which client or fiduciary funds have been deposited, except as expressly authorized by this order.
- 3. To assist the State Bar's analysis of his trust and operating accounts, Romeo should provide the State Bar with records of all accounts in which client or fiduciary funds have been deposited.

## THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED:

- 1. Randolph C. Romeo is enjoined from accepting or receiving any funds from clients or third parties in a fiduciary capacity, from withdrawing any funds from and/or drawing any checks or other instruments against any account in which client or fiduciary funds have been deposited and from directing any employee or agent to withdraw funds from and/or to draw any checks or other instruments against any account in which client or fiduciary funds have been deposited until and unless permitted by subsequent orders of the Court.
- 2. Randolph C. Romeo or any other person having custody or control of records relating to any account into which client or fiduciary funds have been deposited shall, immediately upon request, produce to the North Carolina State Bar for inspection and copying all of Romeo's financial records relating to any account into which client or fiduciary funds have been deposited, including but not limited to bank statements, canceled checks, deposit slips, client ledger cards, check stubs and debit memos and any other records relating to the receipt and disbursement of client and/or fiduciary funds.
- 3. Randolph C. Romeo or any other person having custody or control over records relating to individuals for whom he has provided legal services shall produce to the North Carolina State Bar for inspection and copying all records and documents including but not limited to client files, billing statements, memoranda and receipts. Current client files shall be produced within 24 hours of demand by the State Bar and closed client files shall be produced within 3 days of demand by the State Bar.
- 4. If Romeo does not have possession of the minimum records required to be maintained regarding trust and fiduciary funds pursuant to Rule 1.15-3 of the Revised Rules of Professional Conduct, he shall direct the bank(s) where his bank account(s) are

maintained, within 10 days of the date of this order, to copy and transmit any such missing records directly to the North Carolina State Bar at Romeo's expense.

5. This Consent Order of Preliminary Injunction shall remain in effect until further orders of this Court.

THIS the steady of August, 2009.

Wake County Superior Court Judge

WE CONSENT

Carmen K. Hoyme Attorney for Petitioner

The North Parolina State Bar

Randolph C. Romeo

Respondent

Alan M. Schneider

Attorney for Respondent